

**REMARKS**

**Summary of the Office Action**

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0 315 365 to Wright.

Claims 4-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,907,314 to Negishi et al.

**Summary of the Response to the Office Action**

Claims 1-6 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. Accordingly, claims 1-6 are presently pending for consideration.

**All Claims Comply With 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph**

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. The Office Action asserts at page 2 that it is unclear as to what switching devices are located in the data lines and what switching devices are located in the gate

lines. By way of the foregoing Amendment, claims 1-6 have been amended to address these assertions. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

**Claims 1-3, As Amended, Comply With 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0 315 365 to Wright. To the extent that the Examiner may consider this rejection to apply to independent claim 1, as amended, the rejection is respectfully traversed as being based upon a reference that neither teaches nor suggests the novel combination of features now recited in independent claim 1. For example, claim 1 now recites, amongst other features, a plurality of first switching devices in the gate lines such that each gate line is provided with at least one of the plurality of first switching devices, the plurality of first switching devices being provided for switching a driving mode of the plurality of liquid crystal cells to either a divisional driving mode or a non-divisional driving mode.

In contrast to Applicant's presently claimed invention, Wright only describes switching devices in the data lines. As stated in the Office Action at page 3, Wright does not disclose switching devices in the gate lines. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no teaching or suggestion in Wright for a plurality of first switching devices in the gate lines such that each gate line is provided with at least one of the plurality of first switching devices, the plurality of first switching devices being provided for switching a driving mode of the plurality

of liquid crystal cells to either a divisional driving mode or a non-divisional driving mode.

For at least the above reasons, Applicant respectfully assert that Wright fails to teach or suggest every feature recited in independent claim 1, as amended. Moreover, dependent claims 2 and 3 are allowable over Wright for the same reasons as discussed above and for the additional features that they recite. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 1-3 over Wright be withdrawn.

**Claims 4-6, As Amended, Comply With 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**

Claims 4-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,907,314 to Negishi et al. To the extent that the Examiner may consider this rejection to still apply, Applicant respectfully asserts that the combination of Wright with Negishi et al. in this rejection does not make up for the deficiencies of Wright as discussed above with regard to amended independent claim 1. In particular, Applicant respectfully submits that Wright and Negishi et al., either singly or combined, do not teach or suggest a plurality of first switching devices in the gate lines such that each gate line is provided with at least one of the plurality of first switching devices, the plurality of first switching devices being provided for switching a driving mode of the plurality of liquid crystal cells to either a divisional driving mode or a non-divisional driving mode.

Applicant respectfully submits that there is no motivation to combine Wright and Negishi et al. to teach the invention recited in independent claims 1 and 4, as amended. MPEP § 2143.01

instructs that "[t]he mere fact that references can be combined or modified does not render the resultant combination obvious unless the prior art also suggests the desirability of the combination. In re Mills, 916 F.2d 680, 16 USPQ 2d 1430 (Fed. Cir. 1990)." Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references do not provide such a suggestion or motivation.

Applicant also respectfully submits that the only motivation to combine Wright and Negishi et al. is found exclusively within Applicant's own application. MPEP § 2141 instructs that "the references must be viewed without the benefit of impermissible hindsight vision afforded by the claimed invention." MPEP § 2143 instructs that "the teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art rather than in Applicant's disclosure. In re Vaeck, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991)." The Federal Circuit has clearly held that "the motivation to combine references cannot come from the invention itself." Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG v. Hantscho Commercial Products, Inc., 21 F.3d 1068, 30 USPQ 2d 1377 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

For at least the above reasons, Applicant respectfully asserts that Wright in view of Negishi et al. fails to teach or suggest, either separately or combined, every feature recited in independent claims 1 and 4, as amended. Moreover, dependent claims 5 and 6 are allowable over Wright and Negishi et al., either singly or combined, for the same reasons as discussed above and for the additional features that they recite. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection claims 4-6.

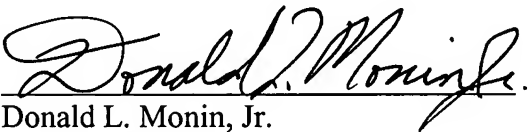
**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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